

To: SEER Registry Directors

From: Lynn Ries

Date: July 12, 2000; revised July 17, 2000

RE: Various SEER matters

- 1) Submission of SEER data to IARC for publication in Cancer Incidence in Five Continents: We will submit the SEER public-use data file on your behalf to fulfill the requirements for data submission. If you want data presented for other than all races, white, or black, you will have to submit population files directly to IARC. Some registries report Chinese, Japanese and /or Hispanic and we do not have populations for these subgroups for 1993 to 1997. Please submit your completed questionnaires and text directly to IARC as requested. If you are sending the information electronically, could you also send a copy to me?
- 2) I hope that you have had a chance to try out the new SEER\*Edits program that was sent to you recently. We are working on making the program more useful to your local needs. Please give us feedback on it.
- 3) The SEER Cobol edits and EDITS metafile have both been revised and placed on the SEER Web page under Administration.
- 4) The SEER memo on changes to the SEER EOD was updated and is also on the SEER Web under Administration.
- 5) We need to change the format for the Feb 2001 SEER submission to accommodate the new race codes. Therefore, we have decided to go to the NAACCR 9 format. There should not be a problem FTPing the file in this format since blanks are compressed. We will be sending you a list of data items with NAACCR item numbers that correspond to the SEER required data items in the near future. We can also send a PC-based program which will allow for your current SEER submission file (with the new race codes at the end) to be converted to the NAACCR format if you think this will be helpful. The new SEER\*Edits program will also be enhanced to read the NAACCR format. Please let me know soon if you foresee any problems in using the NAACCR format for submission of your files to SEER.
- 6) The August submission date is just around the corner. In order to meet your contractual agreement, you must submit a file on time. Since the follow-up has been slow in coming back from HCFA, we will allow you to make a new submission before 9/15/2000 which is the one that we will use for publication. Last year, there was a problem that some registries submitted different data to SEER than to NAACCR's call for data. This meant that there are published numbers for your registries that do not agree between the CINA publication and SEER publication. We would like for this not to happen this year and would ask that the submission that you send to us on 9/15/2000 contain the same data for 1994 to 1998 that you send to CINA. We will make the submission to NAACCR for you if you want to ensure that

the data are identical. Please let me know. NAACCR will be using year of diagnosis of 1998 for certification.

- 7) Warning: we may add edits to make sure that error flags are not being over used, ie that they are being set when they are not needed.

I can be reached by e-mail ([lynn\\_ries@nih.gov](mailto:lynn_ries@nih.gov)) or 301-402-5259.

Have an enjoyable summer!